

Remarks

Claims 38 – 53 and 55 - 112 are pending.

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowability for claims 38 – 53 and 57 – 112. To correct any final informalities, claims 57 and 82 have been amended pursuant to the Examiner’s suggestions, and thus any such objections should be moot at this point. In addition, claim 54 has been canceled, and claims 55 and 56 have been re-written in independent form to include their respective limitations as well as all of the limitations of their base claim (54). Accordingly, these claims also should be in condition for allowance at this time.

As all of the outstanding rejections and objections have been addressed, Applicant believes this case should be in final form for allowance. Should there be any further need to discuss the particulars of this case, the undersigned is available for a telephone conference (415-551-8298) at any convenient time.

Respectfully submitted,

Law+ 

Date: August 15, 2000

J. Nicholas Gross, Attorney, Reg. No. 34,175

I hereby certify that the foregoing is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service, postage prepaid, to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, this 15th day of August 2000.